

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Community Care Licensing Division
Northern California Children's Residential Licensing
Regional Office and Out-of-State Certification Program
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**OUT-OF-STATE ANNUAL REVIEW****INTERMOUNTAIN**

500 So. Lamborn
Helena, MT 59601

FACILITY VISIT DATE(S): March 16, 2006

OUT-OF-STATE CERTIFICATION UNIT (OSCU) STAFF MEMBER:

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PURPOSE OF VISIT:

Intermountain is seeking re-certification with the State of California, Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division, Out-of-State Certification Unit. The purpose of this visit is to verify the facility is in compliance with California Group Home Licensing Standards in order to re-certify the facilities.

CALIFORNIA PLACING AGENCIES:

Currently, there is no California representative involved with placement at this time.

FACILITY AND PHYSICAL PLANT OVERVIEW:

Intermountain is located in Helena, Montana at 500 South Lamborn. The facility has a licensed capacity of 32, and the census was 32 at the time of visit. Currently there are no California children at this facility at this time. The four cottages (residential units) and 40 acre campus provide a home-like environment to the children. Intermountain also includes an onsite school campus fully staffed with special educators and on-grounds therapist.

In the last year, Intermountain has completed play ground construction and remodeling to the facility grounds. Future plans include interior changes to cottages/living units, administration and possible addition of a fifth living unit.

The physical plant overview revealed no issues of concern. All four living units appeared to be operating within compliance of the California licensing standards. All units provided adequate

living space, and plenty of games and recreational activity space. The kitchen, bathrooms, bedrooms and exterior were observed to be clean and in good repair.

FIRE CLEARANCE:

Fire clearances are conducted by the City of Helena Fire Department on an annual basis. According to the Nashua Fire Marshall, the last fire inspection was conducted on November 10, 2005. The Fire Marshall Inspection and findings revealed eight areas of violations. On December 16, 2005, a report from the Fire Marshall indicated that the issues have been corrected.

NEW HAMPSHIRE LICENSING AND COMPLAINTS:

The facilities are licensed and regulated by the State of Montana, Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Quality Assurance. The license is for: Therapeutic Youth Group Home. There are four (4) individual licenses one for each of the four living units on campus. Each license is to serve 8 Children; Male or Female ages 4-14.

The last facility evaluation was conducted in January of 2006. A copy of the facility evaluation was provided and reviewed. The licensing report indicated a deficiency in the area of staff to ratios on the weekends. The plan of correction was provided by Intermountain on February 7, 2006, and approved by the Montana Licensing Division on February 24, 2006.

On March 22, 2006, contact was made with the Montana Licensing representative for Intermountain. The licensing representative reports that Intermountain has not had any substantiated complaints in the last year and the program is currently operating under full licensing status. T

HEALTH DEPARTMENT CLEARANCES:

The State of Montana, under the Food & Consumer Safety Section of the Department of Public Health & Human Services conducts annual inspections to verify food safety. The latest review was conducted on 11/8/2005. There were no concerns or issues identified in the Health Services report.

It is also noted that under the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Division of Quality Assurance, food services are also regulated under this division on an annual basis.

ADMINISTRATION AND PLAN OF OPERATION:

Intermountain provided copies of valid licenses for their Therapeutic Group Homes. Administrative review revealed no issues related to intake procedures, operating outside of licensing capacity. Staff to child ratios was addressed by the Montana Licensing Division during the last annual inspection.

PROGRAM REVIEW AND CHANGES (If applicable):

Intermountain has not had any significant program changes or additions to the existing program in the last year. However, the agency has changed its name from, "Intermountain Children's Home" to "Intermountain".

As of this date, there remains no California youth in the program.

EMERGENCY INTERVENTION PLAN (EIP) / INCIDENT REPORTS (IR):

Intermountain continues to use the "Attachment" approach which incorporates the use of "Holdings." The philosophy of using holdings is to ensure safety, facilitate relationships, recreate uses the "Handle With Care" behavior management system.

Per California Family Code Section 7911.1 (a), certified out-of-state group homes are required to comply with reporting requirements for each child in care regardless of whether he/she is a California placement. (This issue is addressed in the Plan of Correction.)

PERSONNEL AND CLIENT FILE REVIEW

Personnel and client file reviews revealed no issues of concern.

CLIENT(S) AND PERSONAL RIGHTS (REVIEWED):

Upon admission, each child is informed of his/her personal rights. A copy of the student handbook is provided to each child. The child rights statement document is signed by the child and his/her authorized representative and filed in the child's file.

An interview with the California youth revealed no issues regarding personal rights. The youth indicated that he was aware of his personal rights and had no problems in this area.

Note: The 2005 previous issue pertaining to personal rights (shoes removed) appears to have been corrected.

MEDICAL, DENTAL, AND NUTRITIONAL FOLLOW-UP SERVICES:

The facility has an on-sight nurse's station administered by Licensed Registered Nurse's. Intermountain has hired additional nurses in the past year which now includes at least two full-time nurses on campus Monday-Friday, one part-time nurse. Nurses are also on call during the weekend hours. In case of a medical emergency, the facility utilizes the local hospital which is near the facility campus. There were no issues of concern in this area.

TREATMENT SERVICES (COUNSELING, GROUPS, THERAPY ETC):

Individual, Group, and Family therapy by a licensed clinicians is provided or coordinated (in PATH). Individual Therapy is provided a least once a week. Ongoing services are provided to each child according to his/her needs. Each living unit is equipped with an in-house therapist who is specifically assigned to that living unit.

STAFF ORIENTATION AND TRAINING HOURS:

Intermountain continues to provide extensive trainings for all employees throughout the year. Along with the initial staff orientation trainings there are the following mandated trainings: First Aid/ CPR, Holdings, SPC, Food, Water Safety, Water Rescue, Emergency Preparedness, Blood Pathogens, Medication & Dispensing, HIPPA, etc.

All training hours are documented in staff record logs and electronically in a data system. File reviews indicated that ICHS has met and exceeded all training hours and requirements to meet California Licensing Standards.

Review of staff's file revealed no issues regarding training hours. Documentation was found for all training hours.

SCOPE OF CERTIFICATION REVIEW:

Certification review covered the following areas: programming, intake and discharge procedures, discipline policy, emergency intervention techniques, medical procedures, staff and client file review, facility file review, staff interviews, observation of program and daily activities, criminal record review, personal rights, food services, staff trainings, emergency disaster plan, fire clearance, and all issues pertaining to physical plant.

OUT-OF-STATE CERTIFICATION FINDINGS, VIOLATIONS AND PLAN OF CORRECTIONS:

No deficiencies noted.

CERTIFICATION DECISION:

Recommendation for re-certification through 2006-2007.